



The Girl in the Boat

by JOHN NEWTON HOWITT

White Plains claims Mr. Howitt as a native son. New York knows him as one of her youngest (he has not yet reached thirty-five) and most successful artists, whose illustrations appear from time to time in America's leading magazines. Mr. Howitt is a graduate of the Art Students' League, and a member of both the Society of Illustrators and the Independent Artists. His canvases have been exhibited frequently at the National Academy of Design and the Architectural League.

The original painting of "The Girl in the Boat" is now on exhibition at the Babcock Galleries, 19 East Forty-ninth Street.

How the picture came to be painted "Evening after evening," writes Mr. Howitt, "I have drifted idly in a skiff on the St. Lawrence and watched the sunset. Gradually the glory of its earlier phases fades into purple against green. As the smoke from my cigar floated away on the light cool breeze of evening and the shore line slowly darkened and became more indefinite, I have studied a head against the sky. Its dark mass

holds a wealth of mystery and romance. All that lies within the silhouette is so subtle, so close in value that it is a suggestion only. The details are like the sound of individual instruments in a symphony. I tried to paint it many times. About two years ago I painted a small canvas of the present picture and hung it in a place where I saw it every day. I liked it better as time went on and resolved to paint a larger one of the same motif—and here is the result."